

The Platte County University of Missouri Extension office held its annual dinner Feb. 4. Two families were recognized for their dedication to agriculture in Platte County.

Together the University of Missouri Extension, College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources recognized the 2007 Platte County Century Farm Family. Accepting this recognition was **Virginia Golden**, second from right, wife of the late **Theodore Golden**, owner of Golden Acres. She was accompanied by her two sons **Owen** and **Theodore Jr.**, and her daughter and son-in-law **Beth** and **Dale Claypole**, far left. Golden Acres is an 82.5 acre farm located near Dearborn that has been handed down through the generations since it was originally acquired in 1856.

Also recognized was the Platte County, Missouri State Fair Farm Family. This recognition is a joint effort between University of Missouri Extension, Missouri Farm Bureau, Missouri Agriculture Department, Missouri State Fair and the University's College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. The recipients of this recognition are sponsored guests of the Missouri State



Fair where they represent their home county during Farm Family Day. The 2007 recipients of this recognition were **Jason** and **Colleen Gerke**, owners of Jowler Creek Vineyard and Winery near Camden Point. They were selected as the recipients because their four-year-old vineyard is managed with sustainability in mind and is exemplary of the future of alternative agriculture in Platte County.

Nominations for the 2008 Platte County, Missouri State Fair Farm Family are currently being accepted at the extension office located in the County Resource Center, 11724 N.W. Plaza Circle, Suite 300, Kansas City MO 64153. For more information, call 270-2141.